

**FORM FOR TABLING A QUESTION FOR
WRITTEN ANSWER (Rule 130)**

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Priority question

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SUBJECT: Sugar levels in milk-based drinks for young children
(please specify)

TEXT:

The Commission is currently consulting and preparing a report on the issue of milk based drinks for young children. The Commission's report will be partly informed by the 2013 report by the European Food Safety Authority on the same subject, which looked at nutrient requirements and recommendations, including energy intake.¹

EFSA's report warned that "observed average energy intakes in infants and young children living in Europe are generally above the AR (average requirement)" and that "energy intakes above requirements will lead to an unfavourable gain in body mass." However, it did not draw any conclusions specifically on sugar levels in milk-based drinks for young children and how they could contribute to the rising levels of childhood obesity and developing tastes palates of children.

Given the childhood obesity crisis, and the importance of developing healthy lifestyle behaviours in children, will the Commission ask EFSA to report specifically on sugar levels in milk-based drinks for young children?

Will the Commission consider the effect of sugar levels in milk based drinks and how they could contribute to the excess energy intake which, as EFSA warns, is already leading to "an unfavourable gain in body mass"?

Will the Commission also ask EFSA to report on sugar levels in baby foods (such as processed cereal-based foods)?

<http://www.efsa.europa.eu/en/search/doc/3408.pdf>

Signature(s):

Date: 13/03/15